



Music Development Plan

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025/26
Date this summary was published	9 th September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	01 st September 2026
Name of the school music lead	Miss Hollie Williams
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Stoke City Music Service
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

This is a summary of how our school delivers music education to all our pupils across three areas – curriculum music, co-curricular provision (enrichment) and musical experiences – and what changes we are planning in future years. This information is to help pupils and parents or carers understand what our school offers and who we work with to support our pupils’ music education.

Part A: Curriculum music

Music is taught in a whole-class setting, by the class teacher or teaching assistant. Teachers plan from the Charanga Scheme which we purchased to give consistency and coverage in Music teaching across Foundation Stage (Reception), Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. The lessons follow the model Music curriculum and are designed to motivate children from the first moment and are mainly practical in focus. They have clear, achievable objectives and incorporate different learning styles. SEN children have access to the curriculum through variation of task, grouping or support from an adult.

Each class has a timetabled lesson of at least forty-five minutes per week. Music can also be revisited in short sessions throughout the week to consolidate knowledge and ensure new language is retained. Music lessons provide a variety of sources to model the skills, vocabulary and practical opportunities in order to maximise enjoyment and make as many connections to real life situations as possible. Lessons focus on practical application and understanding of vocabulary.

Music is taught to all children at the same level. In order for all learners to achieve, they are scaffolded up to ensure they are still accessing the same knowledge. Through: *Word banks, Adapted questioning, Multiple instrumental parts, Adapted compositional activities*. The curriculum is adaptable in pace and style of teaching for all learners, including disabled pupils and pupils with special educational needs (SEND).

Below is an outline of the coverage within reception, KS1 and KS2.

R



Y1



My Musical Heartbeat



Dance, Sing and Play!



Exploring Sounds



Learning to Listen



Having Fun with Improvisation



Let's Perform Together!

Y2



Pulse, Rhythm and Pitch



Playing in an Orchestra



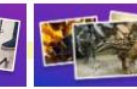
Inventing a Musical Story



Recognising different sounds

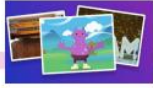


Exploring Improvisation



Our Big Concert

Y3



Writing Music Down



Playing in a Band



Compose Using Your Imagination



More Musical Styles



Enjoying Improvisation



Opening Night

Y4



Musical Structures



Exploring Feelings When You Play



Compose with Your Friends



Feelings Through Music



Expression and Improvisation



The Show Must Go on!

Y5



Melody and Harmony in Music



Sing and Play in Different Styles



Composing and Chords



Enjoying Musical Styles



Freedom to Improvise



Battle of the Bands!

Y6



Music and Technology



Developing Ensemble Skills



Creative Composition



Musical Styles Connect Us



Improvising with Confidence



Farewell Tour

Charanga curriculum is used to ensure that children develop in their component knowledge including listening and appraising, singing, playing instruments, improvisation, composition and performance. A vocabulary-rich curriculum, whereby staff and children use musical terminology consistently, ensures children are prepared for the next stage of their education.

The curriculum ensures that technical, constructive and expressive skills are clearly learnt and repeated to strengthen understanding.

To ensure all pupils are successful, the curriculum has been planned and organised to be progressive from Foundation Stage through to Year 6, with EYFS having opportunities for child-led exploration of musical instruments. The six steps within each unit of work develop skills and knowledge with coherence across units.

Step 1 – introduction to content skills and knowledge (substantive)

Step 2-5 – development of skills and knowledge (through disciplinary knowledge and skills)

Step 6 – assessment showing competence through rehearsal of small components to avoid

Pupils have the opportunity to learn to sing or play an instrument during every lesson of Music through whole-class ensemble teaching or group work.

Waterside Primary School collaborates with our local music hub, the City Music Service, to provide Sound Pots workshops to our Foundation Stage to support the exploration of music as a means of expression and understanding the world.

For any further information, all Music curriculum documents can be found on the curriculum pages of our website waterside.stoke.sch.uk .

Part B: Music enrichment

Within our Music provision at Waterside Primary School, we have a growing range of opportunities to create and make music. All classes participate in weekly choral practice within the classroom, encouraging a community-feel within our school by singing suitable songs which represent our school values and ethos. This has included beginning to learn Makaton alongside using our voices.

Our after-school enrichment offer boasts a growing school choir ranging across the key stages, who have performed both within the local and wider community. We offer chance to participate in Musical Theatre sessions whereby children can take their voices to the stage combined with other art forms of drama and dance. On the other hand, those children interested in the technology of music can sign up for Garage Band and create music using iPads to share with their peers.

At Waterside opportunities for pupils to sing and play music, outside of lesson time, including choirs, ensembles and bands, and how pupils can make progress in music beyond the core curriculum.

Part C: Musical experiences

Across the course of the year, our pupils at Waterside have the opportunity to engage in multiple musical experiences. This includes weekly involvement in whole-class choral practice extending to performing to parents in our yearly whole-year group assemblies and phase productions.

Our after-school enrichment offer includes the opportunity to attend our whole-school choir. Future opportunities include involvement in the exciting and collaborative Young Voices programme as well as numerous performances across the local community including visiting care homes and community events.

Our curriculum design lends further to enriching Music within Waterside Primary School. Year 5 will enjoy hearing the live concert of 'Wicked' as a class trip as part of their Writing curriculum and in contrast, we enjoy our yearly, school-funded visit from City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra (CBSO) who offer practical workshops across our key stages linked to our music curriculum.

In the future

As we continue to grow the love for music within our school, we aim to increase our offer even further.

. By 2026/27 academic year – to offer multiple musical instruments within our school to be used as part of our whole-class tuition. Children will purchase their own recorders to move through each year group with them, offering support for pupil premium to achieve this objective.

. By end of 2026, to offer music technology as part of our free, after-school enrichment provision to further support children to seek careers in music and technology

.Continue to take part in music opportunities including sing up, young voices, competitions.

Further information

The Department for Education publishes a guide on how children can get involved in music in and out of school, and where to go for support beyond the school.

[Music education: information for parents and young people - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/music-education-information-for-parents-and-young-people)

Our local music hub provides useful information on their educational offer within Stoke-on-Trent and schools in the area.

[City-Music-Service-SLA-24-25.pdf \(stocecms.org.uk\)](https://stocecms.org.uk/City-Music-Service-SLA-24-25.pdf)